

Joppa/Joppatowne Community Council

Meeting Number 118 (01-12)

January 9, 2012

The Joppa/Joppatowne Community meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the Joppatowne High School beginning at 7:00 P.M. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. Meeting Number 118 was called to order at 7:14 p.m. by Chairperson Paula Mullis, followed by the pledge of allegiance, greetings to the community members and introduction of Councilman Dion Guthrie. Also, she introduced Jeffrey Moore and Tony Gorski of D. Moore & Associates, LLC. Council members present were Paula Mullis, Doris Carey, Vincent Rabenau, Betty Byrne, Yvonne Baldwin, Ron Sollod, Jo Ann Macdonald and Gloria Moon. Council members absent were Bob Frisch and James B. Lyons, III. It was moved by Gloria Moon and seconded by Vincent Rabenau that the December minutes be approved.

The Sheriff's Office / Community Policing Report

There was no report.

Presentation – Alternative to Waste Transfer Station – Tony Gorski and Jeffery Moore

Tony Gorski of D. Moore and Associates Engineering Company said that a waste transfer station is something that operates forever. There will always be normal trash and vehicle traffic problems in communities. For every truck that goes into the waste transfer station there is a big truck that leaves the station and goes out through neighborhoods. Mr. Gorski stated that rather than placing a waste transfer station on the Pleckers property in Joppa, the waste transfer station could be placed on another 8-acre site in the Aberdeen area, from which the waste could be shipped less expensively by way of rail. He stated that there are viable alternatives in the community that can be done with private money. Gorski and Jeffrey Moore stated that they looked at a parcel several years ago in Aberdeen, between I95 and Route 40, near Loflin Road, that does not have any immediate residential neighbors and is zoned and subdivided as an industrial parcel. He mentioned that the trash would be shipped out of the county by train from that area. Gorski also stated that the county's waste can get taken care of through his company, and the county doesn't have to get involved. The rail cars leaving the area must be contained and can't be an "open trash can." The engineering company does not own the proposed property site but implied that the site was reserved for possible use several years ago. In response to a community member's question, Gorski mentioned that the station would not affect residents' trash haulers; his group would work to attract the business of those waste management companies. He also said there are not a lot of options for the communities. They are generating waste at a high rate and it must go somewhere.

County Council and Community Update from Councilman Dion Guthrie

Councilman Dion Guthrie said he asked for a representative from the county administration to attend the local council meeting to answer questions from community members. However, no one came. He stated that he could not understand why the county paid \$2.9 million for the Pleckers property when the assessment shows it is worth around \$1 million. Dion also called the engineering proposal of Tony Gorski and Jeffery Moore a win-win for the county.

Paula Mullis said as much as we want a private company to answer our questions about a waste transfer station, we can't get any answers from the county's administration. She said every council member and County Executive David Craig know about the local council meeting but won't attend. Paula thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and encouraged everyone to be unified and show up at the County Council meeting tomorrow night, January 10.

Gloria Moon stated that the Master Plan is what we would want the Joppa/Joppatowne plan to look like in the next 8 years. There are a couple of things we want changed. However, it is no surprise that planning and zoning ignored the request. Those changes that we want need to be put in concrete or they will not be done. If anyone would like to work with Gloria on the Master Plan, let her know immediately.

Ron Sollod said the fire department is very busy at this time. Members are getting out and working for the people. He reminded everyone to be careful of embers removed from fire places. A container with hot embers placed too close to a house can cause a terrible fire. The Joppa/Magnolia Fire Company is conducting a free CPR clinic for the communities. If anyone is interested in the clinic, call the Joppa EMS; someone is always at the firehouse. Be sure to keep a watch on wiring and extension cords which could be defective.

Jo Ann Macdonald thanked the community for their participation with the council. She said we all have a big job ahead of us and she is proud to be living here.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Minutes by Doris Carey